7/27/75

Lonnie Hudkins phoned last night after the paper had gone to bed and while he still had to be there. I was an easy night because in the two hours we spoke he was interrupted by the phone only two of three times.

We discussed much, as usual, but I want to note two unusual parts.

Goulden has been after him to write a book on the Jagan deal and says he'll arrange for its publication, approximately that. I thought at first that Joe just wanted Lonnie to write a JFK book but it is not that. This effort by Goulden apparently followed publication of the Jagan thing in New Times.

Lonnie seems to thinkk that Goulden is doing this at CIA instigation. When the conversation turned this way I asked him to think about Goulden's Tonkin Gulf book and ask himself how many sources there could have been for all those documents. He has not read the book.

Because he had not heard from Paul R in a while I told him of the charges the Hunt boys made at the Lubbock trial, that Paul was a CIA agent inside the compnay. I also asked if Lonnie knew anyone in the office who could have been an informer. Negative. But he did say that Paul was in contact with the resident agent, now retired, who had a natural cover as the editor of an oil journal.

He added to this what now is not clear, that Mossedegh would not deal with the State Dept. directly not trusting it but did deal through old man Hunt. Lonnie, who worked for Hunt, claims he has cables. If this was prior to the overthrow I suppose it could have been but I doubt there'd have been communication during the time of the CIA ousting of Mossedegh.

He did not say that Paul worked for the CIA, although it seemed at first that he did. That Paul was in contact would not be unusual. This leaves unexplained how the CIA got some of the information I have seen unless it just came up in conversation between Paul and this CIA man.

Lonnie says he and Lane Bertram were good personal friends, and that he did not trust the FBI or the CIA in Houston. Bertram befriended the Hudkinses by lending them moneywhen their income was small and they wanted to buy a home. Thereafter they remained personal friends. Lonnie says there should be another Bertram report on what he told him, not only the 12/18/63 one he says I do not have.Or the one Ron Rosenbaum and O'Toole used. He said that when Ron called him Ron did not say he was writing with O'Toole. He believes the CIA was the source of this Bertram report, giving it to O'Toole, who he thinks and has thought is still CIA.

He thinks the veiled reference of which I told him to a prior (criminal) record of Bill Alexander may have been from beating his first wife.

(He apparently did not come when he said he would because Mary had to have emergency surgery for a gangrenous gall bladder. She is now home and is doing well.)

He has told me the name of the resident Dallas agent but I've forgotten it.

I tried to indicate, after telling him of the direct in-court accusation, that it held the potential of getting Paul hurt because Goodwin certified to the court that he had personally examined the CIA records and found nothing like Hirschkop alleged. Lonnie laughed and said they'd have been destroyed.

To what he has told me before he added that there was to have been a plane waiting at Redbird to take LHO to Houston for another pickup. We went into the Tippit part and he continues to inists that was LHO and to believe it was because of an accident following a missed pickup. We disagreed.

I do find the inferences about Goulden, not for the first time, interesting. They have known each other since Joe started reporting, Lonnie says. Joe is from Texas and Lonnie knows his family. It is not easy to explain Joe's deception in any other way or his in-deoth interview he had no intention of using. Or the foolishness of returning the tapes thereafter.